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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

10 OCT 1961
~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Argentina-Brazil discuss mediation on Cuba



Fronidizi has indicated to the Brazilian government that he sees eye-to-eye with it on the need to "r50X1 integrate Cuba into the intercontinental system" and opposes alleged US efforts to isolate Havana. Argentina and Brazil can mediate with the US, he said, if Cuba takes "perceptible steps" to help them. Frondizi is, however, extremely anxious that knowledge of any exchanges involving him in the Cuban question be tightly held, because he fears the reaction of admittedly strong anti-Cuban elements in Argentina. 50X1

2. Assessment of Syrian situation



The US mission in Damascus concludes: the Syrian regime has a good chance of maintaining stability for some time 50X1 to come, provided it gives full consideration to all factions and to socialist forces set in motion by last government. If, however, it succumbs to pressures from its rightist supporters and tries to turn the clock back, socialist, Marxist, and unionist opposition will be quick to exploit the situation. 50X1

NOTES

- A. The Moscow grapevine, often accurate, is carrying word that Malinovsky will be replaced before long by his deputy Grechko for health reasons and that Molotov will be "completely rehabilitated" at the Party Congress which begins a week from today. [REDACTED] 50X1
- B. A Soviet test vehicle, probably one of the new types under test, was successfully launched to Kamchatka yesterday. [REDACTED] 50X1
[REDACTED] 50X11
- C. Prime Minister Welensky says that he will announce that any Rhodesian mercenaries in Katanga will lose their passports unless they return home immediately. Our reports have indicated that Rhodesians, along with Belgians and South Africans, make up the bulk of Tshombe's white mercenaries. [REDACTED] 50X1

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